AN IMPORTANT VICTORY.

THE GREAT EASTERN WAR.

THE RUSSIANS AT RASGRAD.

ONTENEGRINS DISPLAYING RENEWED VIGOR In Bulgaria the Russians are approaching Rasgrad, and have probably cut the railroad between that point and Shumia, thereby severing communication between Rustchuk and Shumla. The probability of a general advance of Russian forces at an early day is rendered doubtful by their slowness in collecting military supplies at Sistova. In Montenegro, Prince Nicholas is profiting by the withdrawal of the Turkish troops, to resume the offensive. It is said that he is about to besiege Niesie again. In Armenia, the situation is un-

THE CAMPAIGN IN BULGARIA. THE RUSSIANS APPROACHING RASGRAU-A BATTLE

IN THE OPEN FIELD EXPECTED—THE RUSSIANS' SUPPLIES STILL SCANTY.

LONDON, July 15, 1877. There is no trustworthy news from the armies in Bulgaria. The recept special dispatches announcing that great battles were in progress there prove entirely groundless. That the Russians are closing in upon Rustchuk is probable, although their concentration must still be in a very backward state, since telegraphic communication between Rustchuk and Shumla was intact up to Friday. However, a Constantinopie dispatch dated Saturday, announces that the Russians are approaching kasgrad [twenty miles from Rustchuk], and have probably already cut the railway near that point. It is conjectured by some that the Turks will maintain a defensive line extending from Rustchuk to Shumla and thence to Osman-Bazar, and will give battle in the open field. The Constantinople telegram above mentioned strongly opposes this presumption, since the chief object of such defensive line would be to protect the railway which feeds the quadrilateral This railway has now been apparently cut by the Russians without opposition.

A more plausible theory is that the Turks will await the development of the Russian campaign, in expectation that Rustchuk and Shumla must be besieged, and one or both be reduced before an advance on the Balkans can be undertaken. They hope thus to consume the season wherein operations are practicable, as Rustchuk and Shumla are believed capabie of a lengthened resistance, and meantime the Balkan Passes could be strengthened and reinforced.

Two things appear certain: first, that the Rusans cannot scize the passes of the Balkans or pected, since the Turks have already taken precautions against such movements; secondly, the single bridge at Simuitza remains the only means of communicating with and supplying the army south of be Danube. As this bridge must be barely adequate for day-to-day requirements, and has been river, there cannot yet have been any such accumuation of material and transport at Sistova as would justify a general advance. It seems improbable, startling movement for the present, and if the Tarks choose to keep to their fortifications, advices from Bulgaria bid fair to continue of the same uninteresting character as heretofore, for several weeks

German settlers in the Dobradja are suffering seriously from the war. The German Government has complained to Russia and Turkey that they are illtreated by soldiers of both nations.

It is conceded that the damage done to both Rustchuk and Slobosia by the recent cannonading may have occurred without either the Turks or the Rus sians having designedly attempted to destroy dwell-Mr. Layard, the British Ambassador at Constanti-

noble, has received several reports from British Consuls in Bulgaria certifying to the commission of ptrocities upon the Mussulman inhabitants.

THE ATTITUDE OF AUSTRIA. RUSSIA DISTRUSTFUL-THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WILLING TO MEDIATE.

LONDON, July 15, 1877. Official declarations of Austria's neutrality continue to be issued in answer to reports persistently circulated in a contrary sense. It is noticeable, however, that the effusive references to a good un-derstanding with Russia and the integrity of the three Emperors' alliance, which, before the outbreak of hostilities, characterized every communication from the Austrian chancellory, are now uniformly absent, and the declaracontinued neutrality. That such neutrality is jealonsly watchful of Russian progress may be inferred from the fact that Roumania and Servia still refrain from active co-operation in the war. Both are the merest creatures of Russia's will. Their help would be valuable in Bulgaria now, especially that of Servia. If Russia hesitates to call them into action, the reason, in all probability, is fear of Austrian intervention, which would be fatal to the Russian

It is said Austria has fruitlessly endeavored to sound the Russian Government as to possible conditions of peace. The Austrian Embassador at Constantinple has, however, no instructions or informa-

A Vienna telegram denies circumstantially the latest reports of Austrian military preparations, and also that Baron Calice's visit to England has any political significance,

It is stated at Paris that Austria intends to propose mediation as soon as the decisive action of either belligerent has clearly defined the Military situa-

The Temps's Vienna telegram says Count Andrassy has made representations at Bucharest and Belgrade, with a view of causing Servian territory to be respected. Roumania has renounced all idea of

THE SITUATION IN ARMENIA. LONDON, July 15, 1877.

The position in Asia Minor is tolerably clear. Makhtar Pasha is at Kars with about 40,000 men. all told, including the Kars garrison. Gen. Melikoff is at Zairn, eight miles off, with about 35,000 men, but superior to the Turks in cavalry and artillery. The garrison of Batum made no important movement, as far as reported, since Gen. Oklobschi retired. The Russians still hold Ardahan.

THE CAUCASIAN REVOLT.

St. Petersburg, July 15, 1877. From the scene of the insurrection in the Caucasus it is reported that the Russians have resumed the offensive. Gen. Alkhasoff marched on July 13 from Tokueli to Tkvartcheii, on the right bank of the Galigsi, drove the enemy from their entrenched positions, forced them behind Mokva, and occupied Goum, about twenty miles north of Sukum-Kaleh.

GREECE PREPARING FOR WAR. ATHENS, July 15, 1877.

Greek volunteers arrive in great numbers from Turkey and are enrolled in the Greek Army. The reserves have been called out and military defensive measures are progressing.

THE TURKS IN ASIA.

CANNON ON THE ROAD FROM TREBIZOND-RUSSIAN PROGRESS-CIRCASSIAN FEROCITY-HATRED OF CHRISTIANS-KARS.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] ERZERUM. June 6 .- In my last letter I spoke of our retreat to the Black Sea coast, and of scenes witnessed on the way. I have now just returned to this place, having made a forced march. The seventy and more cannon we saw soing on have made a little progress. The poor peasants have been pushed into the service

first high mountain, and a part of them have reached Baiburt, while the remainder are fifteen miles fur ther back. The present prospect is that they will not reach here in time for use in this campaign

The Russians are making progress on all hands. The Turks have fallen back from the Soughaulu Mountain range, and are now holding on at Khor assan, their line extending on as far as Kuprikoi within twenty-seven miles of this place. The Ruse sians are probably on this side of the mountain. Though there has been no regular battle in these parts as yet, still some skirmishing and important surprises have occurred. Some irregular cannonading has taken place near Kars, though with no very erious result. Six or eight men fell on the Turkish side, and the Turks say 300 on the Russian, though I do not credit the statement, as the authors of it withdrew too soon to learn the facts. The Turks have not made a bold stand, and they are outnumbered by the Russians. How much they will accomplish is a matter of much doubt. Their army is already getting badly demoralized and disheartened from constant retreat and lack of proper supplies. As I have hinted above, the most of the cannon des tined for these well-made earthworks are half-way distant on the road to Trebizend, and cannot therefore avail much for the present emergency. Besides, it looks very much as though a part of the triumphant right wing of the Russian Army that has now taken Ardahan is making its way up the Choruk River toward Baiburt, and will, ere long, intercept the cannon altogether, perhaps cutting off communication with the Black Sea by direct road. It is currently reported that they have reached Ispir, not more than twelve hours from Baiburt at most. Be that as it may, the other part of the wing has moved in a line towards this place, captured Otti, and may now wheel to the eastward to help the main army in case a heavy battle takes place on the Passin Plain, which must be before long if the Turks do not fall back on this city.

All communication with Kars is cut off, and we know not its fate. Report has it that the place has surrendered, but people do not credit it. An important event has taken place in front of Kars, which may arrest the attention of conservative Englishmen who were so slow to believe statements regarding the late massacre in Bulgaria. For weeks Circas sians have been passing this way en route for the front. Wherever found they are a fierce, blood thirsty race. They constitute a cavalry force, and are armed to the teeth. In all these parts, wherever they moved, they caused terror. So defiant were Sophia by a coup de main, as was at one time ex- | they in the markets and before the Government that the latter had difficulty in urging them forward. Theft, plunder and murder were in the category of their crimes. They were going to give no quarter to threats of what they should do to Christians on their return. They went up, but not to return. Once at the front they gave Mukhtar Pasha much trouble They were restive, fault-finding and dissatisfied generally, so that rebellion in the ranks was feared. Finally, he yielded to their request and let them push therefore, that the Russians can originate any very on to join the forces at Kars. The last night they quartered themselves at a large Christian village some twelve miles from the city. In the morning they awoke to find themselves surrounded by the Russians. They turned upon the Christians, claim ing they had given news of their presence in the village to the Russians. They killed a few, upon which the Russians let loose on them, and of the 1,500 not more than 400, and some say not even that, made their escape. Thus the vengeance which they had plotted for others returned in a terrible blow on their own heads. It caused great rejoicing among Christians this way, who had been so intimidated by their threats and actual violence. The Government in many parts seems powerless to withstand and restrain crime. We can only pray that the blow, though staggering, may be decisive and of short

FATAL BOILER EXPLOSION.

THREE PERSONS KILLED AND MANY OTHERS PA-TALLY INJURED AT A PENNSYLVANIA MINE.

Allentown, Pa., July 15 .- A terrible explosion occurred a few minutes before 6 o'clock yester day moraing at the Ore Mines, about time miles from Macungle, which caused a great loss of life. The minis operated by Mr. Joseph Kiefer, for the Lehigh Iron Company, at Allentown, and at the time of the explosion were instantly killed, and five fatally and three seriously

AARON MILLER, the engineer, aged 38, instantly killed. Owen Lamn, laborer, aged 25, instantly killed. Wilson Andrews, aged 12, instantly killed. Liewetlys Ruff, laborer, fatally injured. Henry Heinrach, a driver, fatally injured.

THOMAS KEHM, fatally injured.

VICTOR and OLIVER MILLER, sons of the engineer, aged 10 and 12 years were also injured, Victor fatally, and MORRIS SCHMEYER, age 14, was badly bruised by fly-

ng bricks, about the face and legs. WILLOUGHBY STRPHESS, age 30, was injured in the

JOSEPH HOLLOWAY, age 69, was slightly wounded in the right arm and left leg.
All those killed leave families. Aaron Miller was

thrown a distance of thirty feet, and his body was hockingly bruised and mangled. Rupp, who, with Heinbach and Mohr, was sitting near the wall which inclosed found lying in the hot coal under the boiler. He cannot

The boiler was thirty-five feet long by three feet in diameter, and was broken into three pieces. One piece, consisting of three sections, was thrown fully a bundred yards to the east, burying itself in a mud bank. Another portion, consisting of one section, was thrown north-ward about fifty yards, and the third piece, over twenty feet long, flew in a westerly direction and landed in a bank of earth, which it penetrated to the depth of eight feet. The engine-house was completely destroyed; the horse-shed, distant about eighty feet, badly wrecked, and the washery slightly damaged. Several horses and

The cause of the accident has not yet been ascertained, the Coroner and his jury not having concluded their abors. The verdict may not be rendered for several days. The boiler had been in position over four years and in steady operation for the past six months. It was examined last January, and pronounced by the Inspector to be in sound condition.

A WITNESS IN THE MORMON INVESTIGATION.

San Francisco, July 15 .- Sumner Howard, District Attorney of Utah, informed a Call reporter lasevening that the object of his visit to this city was to hunt up a certain witness for the purpose of producing him before the Grand Jury of Utah, which is now in se sion, investigating the Mormon affairs of that Ter. ritory. This witness was a member of the famous 'Lamb Band," and it was generally assumed he had been mardered many years ago. Mr. Howard, however, succeeded in tracing him, and ascertained that he has been living in this State for some twenty-five years. His evidence will have important bearing on the investigations. For obvious reasons the name of the witness and the nature of his testimony are withheld. Mr. Howard and the witness left for Utah this morning.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT. PHILADELPHIA, July 15 .- As the express-

train yesterday from Washington for New York, which arrives here at 7 p. m., was passing through the West Philadelphia tunnel, it jumped the track. The baggage car was demolished, and the train was set on fire. Joseph Miller, fireman, was instantly killed, and the en gineer, Fager, was very seriously injured. A passenger Samuel Frame had his left leg cut off, and sustained other injuries. He has since died. The cause of the accident

HOMICIDE IN PATERSON. Edward Holland, of Carmel, while under the influence of liquor yesterday at the American Hotel in Paterson, N. J., shot a young man named Ellsworth, fa-tally wounding him. Ellsworth was wounded in the ab-

demen and m one leg, Holland having fired twice at him,

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE FRENCH ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN.

INCIDENTS OF THE CONTEST-THE ROYALISTS QUAR-RELING.

Lennon, July 15, 1877. It is understood the elections will be held on the 16th of September, and the second ballots on the 30th of the same menth. The Chamber will meet on the 8th of October. The list of official candidates, which has only been settled after much difficulty, seems to comprise

230 Bonapartists, 176 Legitimists, and 117 Orleanists. The Bonapartist Committee met yesterday to receive the report of the results of M. Rouher's visit to Chiselhurst, and a subsequent interview with M. Fourtou, Minister of the Interior. It is stated that the Bounpartists claim Government support for 250 candidates, whereof 100 have been accepted and 38 been taken under consid-

The Bien Public has begun suits against several Prefects

for prohibiting the sale of that paper The Moniteur asserts that the Republicans admit they are certain to lose fifty seats, and possibly more. The blicans, however, have made no such admission publicly. On the contrary they are confident of gaining scals. The Moniteur also says intelligence reaching the Committee of the Right gives ground to the belief that the Conservative gain will be very large.

Paris, July 15, 1877. M. Huguet, Republican Senator, has been removed from the post of Mayor of Boulogue. Dissensions between Legitimists and Bonapartists are becoming very marked. M. de Franclicu, one of the most prominent Legitimist Senators, has written a letter in which he says: "I believe I am in a position to declare, in the name of all true Royalists and sincere Catholics, that we prefer even the Republic to the Empire."

FRANKFORT, July 15 .- Gen. Grant visited

Homburg on Friday and held a reception on caturday at the manager's residence in the Zoological Garden, the Chief Burgomaster presenting the guests. A grand con cert was given in the grounds afterwards, which was attended by many thousands of persons.

THE CANADIAN ORANGEMEN. THE PUBLIC MIND STILL EXCITED - HACKETT'S FUNERAL TO TAKE PLACE TO-DAY.

MONTREAL, July 14.—The Coroner began iking evidence at the inquest on the body of Thomas Lett Hackett this morning. Dr. Perrijo, who made the post-mortem examination, testified that he found a bullet wound in the brain and another in the shoulder; the

with the murder. James Parrell, a painter, cutered a store, pulled a pistor from his pocket, and observed, "That is the pistol Hackett was shot with." On the in-stant two detectives arrested him. "The pistol has been identified as the one in the possession of Hackett at the

THE PERUVIAN REPUBLIC.

Panama, July 7.—Political affairs in Peru are quiet, but floancial matters have not improved. The depreciation of bank notes continues, and the prominent nce per dollar. The Star and Herald correspondent under date of June 27, says: When Don Nicholas de Pierola surrendered the Hussear to the Government all manner of guarantees, among which was a promithe Hussear should be immediately suspended. This has been disapproved of by the Government at Lima, and in

immediate redress would be demanded for the proceed-ngs of the Shah and Amethyst, is being compiled with. ngs of the Shah and Amethyst, is being compiled with.
An important circular addressed by the Minister of
Foreign Affairs to the Peruvian Diplomatic and Consum Representatives abroad has been made public.
It appears from further details that the eighty shots
fixed by the Hunsear were productive of no turther damage to are opposed, the Shah, than that of cutting away
some of her dipper rigging. During the action one of rice
eclebrated Whitehead torpedors was detached from the
Shah and sent against the Hunsear, at a rate or about
nine knots—the Huncear then acaming at about elevenfiring, advancing and retiring. The route of the torpedo
was at right-hungers to the Hunsear's course, so than at a
given point the two would meet. But it seems that these
torpedous all court proceeding some two or tare feet

COLOMBIAN AFFAIRS.

PANAMA, July 7.-Political affairs on the Isthmus are quiet, and are likely to remain so. Although the election for President of the State is near at hand, no trouble is expected to arise from it. There are two candidates for the office, Dimaso Cervira and Gen. Buchavestura Correoso. The latter is the stronger and

Bachavestura Coffeo.o. The latter is the stronger and the office. In view of these facts, it is generally understood that Corvira will make no opposition.

The recepts of coffee and sugar from Central America, and cocoa from Guiyaquil for the season now closing, are as follows: Total recepts for one first hall of the year, 75,510 bags of cocoa, 230,778 bags of coffee, and 18,442 packages of sagar.

SUSPICIOUS DEATH OF A GERMAN.

Charles Wooley, a German laborer age 45, of One Hundred-and-Thirtieth-st, and Eleventh-ave., was taken to Believue Hospital last Saturday suffering from several abrasions of the scalp, which doubtless had bee

ANOTHER WEARY LIFE ENDED. Angust Snobel, age 50, a homeless man, was found rate Salurday night by an office of the Fifty-stath, st. police. insensible on the side-walk at First-ave, and he was found to be suffering from the effects of poison, doubtless administered by himself. He disd a few hours afterward. The Coroner will make a autopsy this morn, ing at the Morgue.

THREE PERSONS DROWNED AT SEA.

PORTLAND, Me., July 15 .- A private dispatch received here states that the schooner Mary, of Dennys-ville, coal laden, was sunk at three o'clock this morning

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

MiddleTown, N. Y., July 15,-The bay and grain ELLSWORTH, Me., July 15.—The firm of H. M. & Hall, mobernes, have finited. Then firm of except are estimated at \$175,000, about one-half secured. The assets are very more in a

OTTAWA, July 15.—The Orangemen of this city, at a meeting to-my, decided to send 500 of their number to Montreal formight. They will be joined by about 800

Columbus, Ohio, July 15.—Louis Maner, aged 26 years, was sun-struck this afternoon white riding with his wife and two children, and died in a few minutes.

LOUISVILLE, July 15.—By an amicable arrange-

NEW ORLEANS, La., July 15.—Lewis H. Johnson, a cabb boy on the stemboat Francis Bell, aged 19 years, a native of cattlesburg, Ky., was not and killed by a negro at Westwego to day. The nurderer escaped.

St. Albans, July 15.—Much excitement is caused by a regent that him they A. I. Sandans,

MONTREAL, July 15.—The liabilities of Young, MeNagation & Co., shirt and coller manufacturers, who lately failed here, are \$4.4,000 direct, and \$442.0.0 in lirect. There assets are \$71,200, leaving a descreepey of \$172,800. CHICAGO, Ill., July 15.—In the United States District Court by-day Judge illodgett decided that the case of the Government calm against A. C. He-sing should be re-opened for hearing of argument and the representations of his contact.

PITTSBURG, Pa., July 15.—The Committee appointed by the State Legislature to investigate prison contract labor in this State as to its effect on the prisoners and upon outside workmen, adjourned yesteruay. They will report to the Legislature.

WASHINGTON.

THE FOUR PER CENTS. A GREATER SUCCESS THAN EXPECTED-ONLY ONE DAY MORE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, July 15.-The total amount of four per cent bonds sold by the Syndicate in this country up to three o'clock yesterday afternoon was \$42, 695,900. This is a much larger sum than the Department anticipated would be subscribed in this country; and although only one day remains in which subscriptions will be received by the Syndicate at par, the present indications are that the total sales in this country by Monday evening will be, in round numbers, \$50,000,000. A member of the Syndicate, in a private telegram received here today, says he thinks the sale will, by the close of tomorrow, reach \$60,000,000, and perhaps exceed that

NEW YORK CUSTOM HOUSE.

FINAL ACTION AS TO THE REDUCTIONS EXPECTED TO-MORROW. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.!

Washington, July 15 .- So many differences were found to exist between the recommendations of Secretary Sherman's Commission touching the requetion of the force in the New-York Custom House, and those proposed by the Richard Grant White Committee that the examination of the report of the latter in the Treasury Department has occupied more time than was expected. In each case, where the diversity of opinion between the bodies occurs, a careful and thorough examination of the whole subject is made in order that the Secretary may act understandingly, when he announces his approval or disapproval of what was done. The report of the Richard Grant White Committee with the action of the Treasury Department upon it will probably be completed and ready for publication on Tuesday next, and its recommendations will take effect in the Custom House at once.

THE PRESIDENT'S ORDER. CERTAIN PROPER EXEMPTED FROM ITS OPERATIONS, AND WRY.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Washington, July 15 .- Much discussion has taken lace during the last two days, in regard to the desion of the Administration to exempt members of the National Republican Committee from the operation of the President's order forbidding officers of the Government to take an active part in the management of politics. It is understood that the

question was first presented for earnest discussion by Mr. Cernell of New-York, who had determined to take issue with the Administration on this order. When the decision was first announced here it was not credited by anyone; but Assistant Secretary McCormick, Secretary of the third as he one in the possession of Hackett or Monle arrangements for the fineral or Mathonal Republican Comle drawn by four horses, the members of the local
roce, reinforced by large numbers of their brethree,
in containing the fineral or the fineral or fi

consistency in their retaining their connection with

MEXICO IN FIGHTING MOOD. TREVING ORDERED TO BUEAK THE AGREEMENT WITH

GFN. ORD.
[BY TRLEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Official reports from Gen. Ord state that the Mexican General, Trevino, by direction of his Government, has withdrawn from the agreement ensured into between them in regard to ooperative movements against Mexican cattle raiders. The effect of this withdrawal will be to give force to the previous instructions to Trevino to resist my attempts on the part of the American Commander any attempts on the part of the Aberican Commander
to pursue raiders across the border by the force.
The subject will be a matter of namediate consideration. There will be no change in the policy of the
Government, however. The Mexicans will either
have to see that these raiders are prevented from
crossing the border, or take the responsibility of any
attempt to oppose the United States forces in carrying out the instructions given to Gen. Ord.

NEW CHINESE PORTS.

HOLHOW AND PARHOI-A REPORT FROM COMMANDER PERKINS.

Washington, July 15.-Commander Perkins ulars of his visit to the newly-opened Chinese ports of Hothow, on the Island of Haman, and Pakhon, on the main, in company with Mr. Lincoln, our Consul at Canton, when the Cainese authorities received them with every courtesy. The Island of Hainan contains about 1,000,000 Chinese, and 40,000 savages, who occupy the enter of the island. In the middle of the territory occupied by the Indians is a chapel occupied by Christianizad Chairse, who are unmolested by the Indians. The population of Hadiow comprises 12,000 Camese and twelve oreigners. The exports are betel mits, brown sugar, while sugar, leather, resamm seeds, etc. The imports re-opina, gray and white saidings, T codis, etc. Pakeol contains about 10,000 manhages. are opinion, gray and white sair logs, T cloths, etc. Pais-hol contains about 10,000 minatomans. There are six white people, five of whom are in the Customs depart-ment. It was hapossible to obtain reliable information about the business, where miss be inconsiderable. Sugar, amer-seed, hongo and cassia are the products.

AROUND THE DEPARTMENTS. CIRCULAR ABOUT ADVERTISING-A CLERK DIS-

MISSED FOR FRAUD-THE PRESIDENT ON A VISIT OF INSPECTION.

Washington, July 15.-The Postoffice Department has stopped payment on all bills for advertis-Attorney-General tant old law in regard to publishing certain legal notices of courts fixes the taxes for all government advertising at forty cents per hundred words for the first magnition and twenty cents for each subscquent publication. Under this decision bills even in curred before the Attorney-General reaffirmed this curious opinion have been stopped. A circular giving notice of this action and explaining it will be sent to all news-

papers interested in it to morrow.

L. S. Hayden, a clerk in the Indian Bureau, was summarry dismissed by the Secretary of the Interior, yester-day, as the first public result of the pending investigation of the irregularities and fraudulent practices in the Indian Service. Secretary Schurz, in his letter of dismissal, sets forth that the testimony taken by the Board of Inquiry shows that Hayden, according to his own evidence, has accepted money and other things of value from contractors, and that he has held private correspondence with outside persons in relation to official business of the Department. The Secretary says that such conduct is utterly incompatible with that sense of duty and those principles of honor which should animate every public off-er, and, therefore, notifies Hayden that his services will be immediately dispensed with. Secretary Schurz expresses a determinaion to dismiss any and all employes of the Department no may be round gunly of irregular or corrupt practices. Hayden, who was appointed from Maryland, and has been a clerk in the Bureau for sixteen years, says that his testimony has been misunderstood and he has therefore asked a susp-usion of sentence for a few days until he can make an explanation.

All the executive departments were closed yesterday, and will be hereafter on Saturdays, during the Summer, at 3 o'clock matend of 4 o'clock, as has been the custom for some years. This determination was

made at the Cabinet meeting, Friday. The President, accompanied by his sons Burchard and

Rutherford, spent a couple of hours going through the Cost-office Department, under the escort of Third Assistant Postmaster-General flazen, examining into the busiless of the various bureaus. The President expressed himself as being much pleased with the practical work-

ings of the Department.

Reports received by the Commissioner of Pensions indicate that the detailed work of consolidating all the Pension Agencies throughout the country, as per the President's order, will be finished without jur or friction President's order, will be finished without jar or friction within the present week. The transfer of records and opening of new books, etc., for the consolidated offices at washington, Philadelphia, New-York, Canandaigua, Detroit and affiwankee has been completed, and the consolidation at Chicago, Columbus and Concord is nearly completed. Commissioner Bentley says payments to pusioners all over the country will go forward as usual by the 25th inst., except possibly within the boundaries of the old Albany District, where a few days longer time

may be required to prepare for making the next pay-

CUBA'S APPEAL FOR LIVE-STOCK. A REDUCTION OF DUTIES-JOYELLAR ISSUES A DE-

Washington, July 15 .- The Department of State has received the following full copy of the Decree of the General Government of the Island of Cuba, dated the 18th uitimo, reducing to one-half, for the term of six months, to be reckoned from the 1st of July, the customs duties now paid on the importation into said island of foreign bovine cattle, mules and horses, in virtue where-of the new tariff of duties is appended:

of the new tariff of duties is appended:

General Government of the Island of Cura, Island of the propriety of favoring the introduction of live-stock into the Island, as well for the needs of agriculture as for the victualing and service of transportation of the army, in accordance with the reasons presented by His Excellency the General-inChief of the Army of Operations, with the consent of the Hispaño Colonial Bank, and duly authorized by the Government of His Majesty, I have hereby decreed the foliowing:

First—From the 1st of the month of July next, there will be permitted at all the open ports of the Island the introduction of mules, horses and bovine cattle brought from the Island of Porto Rico.

Second—The three classes of live stock designated in the foregoing article, brought from foreign countries, shall only pay, on being imported into this island after the same date, one-half of the customs duties which they pay at the present time.

Third—To make this reduction the various items of the tariff in force in regard to bovine cattle, large and small, and to mules and horses of large and small size, shall be converted into one, and the average ascertained in order to establish the permanent sim which is to be paid, and which must not exceed one-half of that is paid at the present time.

Fourth—This excemption shall continue only for the

at the present time.

Fourth—This exemption shall continue only for the term of six months.

Fourta—This exemption shall continue only for the term of six months.

Fifth—The General Bureau of the Treasury shall prescribe suitable regulations for the better execution of the present decree, and shall publish the new tariff for fare payment of duties of importation on bovine exitle, incles, and horses, in accordance with the ascertained amount, and, in consultation with me, shall adopt such measures as it may even most appropriate, to the end that the exemption now suthorized may accomplish completely the object proposed without giving rise to abuse prejudicial to the interests of the Treasury.

The tollowing is the new tariff, which will go into effect from the last of July for the payment of duties of importation on borses, mules, and bovine cattle brought from foreign countries according to flag:

Interest

**Interest

Iules, male and temale, 1

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL.

VERY FEW TROOPS SOUTH. Washington, July 15, 1877. No action has yet been taken by the War Department toward ordering more troops away from the South. The Second Infantry, recently on duty at Acanta, Ga., having been ordered West to reinforce Genforce now stationed in the Southern States, with the excepti n of those in Texas, to operate against Mexican maraulers, does not exceed ton or twelve hundred men. Gen. Augur, in the Department of the Gulf, has only two regiments of infantry, numbering about six handred men, and Gen. Ruger, in the Department of the South, has twelve companies of artillery and one regiment of infantry, in all less than six hundred men. Besides the officers of the several regiments on duty with their com-panies in various localities, there are seven staff officers same number at Atlanta, Gen. Ruger's headquarters.

GEN. KAUTZ'S CONTROVERSY WITH CLUM. Gen. McDowell has telegraphed to the War Department a strong defense of Gen. Kauiz against the reports of the Agents of the Indian Office. The General ecommends that, in view of the continued attacks made upon Gen. Kauiz, that, in order that he may vindicate himself beyond reason for further complaint, a court of nquiry shall be called to examine into the case, and report its opinion. It is an lerstood that, notwitistending the reports of the Indian Inspectors sent to examine into this controversy, and that of Gov. Saford, Secretary Schurz is merined to believe that Gen. Kautz is in the right, and that Indian Agent Chan is in the wrong.

NO CONTEST IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

South Carolina Republicans lately from Charlest n express the opinion that there will be no furth r contest made at present by the Republican party in that State; and they add that the propriety of assembling the Republican Committee and formally disbanding the party organization is now being considered. Some members of that committee feel confident that the decision will be to give up all organized political effort for the press in.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Washington, July 15, 1877. The Commissioner of Patents heard arguments yesterday for and against an application made un-ter authority of a special Act of Concress for an extension of the Voelter patent for a machine and precess for grinding wood pulp used for strengthening application are Gov. Cheney of New-Hampshire, and Wu. A. Russell of Lawren e. Massachuseits. Fue extension is opposed by the Taylor Manufacturing Company and various other New York men.

The Post Office Department to-day gives notice that a pecial mail for the Sombern Pacific and Central Amer. can peris will be despatically by the steamer Crescent City, from New-York, on Monday, the 16th inst.; also, that a mail for Choa will be sent by the steamer Niagara, sating from Havana on the 19th inst. Carl W. Schuerman, assistant to Prof. Spencer A.

Baird, passed through this city last night with 100,000 shad that were hatched at South Hadley Falls, Mass. He proposes to deposit them in the Cattahouchee River, Georgia, at Columbus and West Point.

No change in the Consui-Generalship of Japan has yet been determined upon, as has been erroneously stated but if a vacancy should be created it will be filled by a promotion from one of the lower grades in the ser-

O. L. Pruden, Assistant Secretary to President Hayes, left Washington yesterday on a brief trip of recreation, intending to spend some time in New Jersey during his absence.

RAILROAD INTERESTS.

SUIT AGAINST THE MISSOURI, KANSAS AND TEXAS RAILROAD.

St. Louis, July 15 .- The Choctaw and Thickasaw Indian Nations have brought suit against the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad on a claim for \$70. 000 for ties, timber, musonry, coal, &c., used in the construc tion of that road. The examination took place at Mus kozee in the Creek Nation, before Major Marston, In dion Agent of six consolidated tribes, and was concluded on Thursday. The ratiroad company produced receipts for money paid for ties and other material to individuals but the plaintiffs claim that the property belongs to the Nations in common and not to individuals, who have no right to dispose of it in any way. The examination was made under the law which requires that all disputes be ween Indians and whites shall be investigated by United States Indian Agent and a report made to the In terior Department. Some of the testimony offered was ruled out under instructions from the Department. The stenographic reporter of the testimony has arrived here and will write out his notes and forward the report to

THE MONTCLAIR RAILROAD. Middletown, N. Y., July 15 .- Grinnell Burt, President of the Warwick Valley Railroad has been made General Manager of the Montelair Railroad, the Presi-

dent of the latter, Cyrus W. Field, going to Europe next

Lowell, Mass., July 15.—James A. Favor, who as under \$20,000 bail for assisting to kill the Harrington it at East hoston, drowned himself in the canal yesterday. CHICAGO, Ill., July 15.—The Warden of the Peni tentiary at Johet, having discovered a plot of the President institution to escape, today select 19 of the ringleaders and put them in solitary confinement.

and put them in solitary confinement.

Louisville, July 15.—Robert Pegram, a young bookkeeper for David Hamilton, tobacconist, has been formed and in the casal with a hole in his head. A mystery surrounds the death and causes much excitement.

ELMIRA, N. Y., July 15.—The Governor refuses to interfere in the case of Penwell, who is to be hanced in this city on Friday next for the murder of his wife. It is not believed that an appeal to the courts will be successful.

Roseron, Mayer, Luly 15.—

Boston, Mass., July 15.—John Moore and Wm. Hayward, arrested at Newport, were brought to this city year-critay. A third member of the gaug was arrested in Prov-

BALTIMORE, Md., July 15.—During the sharp but brisf thunder-atorm which passed over a portion of the city on Friday, in htmmg struck the freight house of the Baitimore and One lialroad at Locuat Foint. The telegraph operator was thrown from his seat six feet, and fell on the floor very severely shocked. TRENTON, N. J., July 15.—About 1 o'clock this morning two men made an assault upon a woman, and a man named Augustus Fraley went to her assistance. When the police arrived and all three of the men ran, the police fired at them, two of the shots taking effect on Fracey, one in the thigh and the other at the base of the spine. The wounds are thought to be fatal.

A BATTLE FOUGHT NEAR THE MOUTH OF THE COT-TONWOOD-JOSEPH'S BAND SHELLED FROM ITS

POSITION AND PUT TO FLIGHT-TWO OFFICERS AND ELEVEN MEN REPORTED KILLED. San Francisco, July 15 .- A press dispatch from Portland, Oregon, gives the following official dis-patch, just received from Gen. Howard:

from Portland, Oregon, gives the following official dispatch, just received from Gen. Howard:

Heardtafters, Department of the Collembia, Camp Williams, left bank of the senth fork of the Clear Water, near the Cottonwood, L. T., July 12, via Walla Walla, July 14.—By making a forced march, I struck the enemy at 1 p. m. vesterday, about 300 strong, in a deep casion near the month of the Cottonwood, near the south fork of Clear Water, and opened fire at once with a howitzer, succeeding in starting the Indians from their position. Passing around the transverse of the casion for a mile and a half. I began battle in good earnest, and dismounting we formed in ravines and behind rocks. Buricades were prepared. For seven hours every charge we made gained upon them. Stil at night our position was not a very good one, as the enemy lay contiguous to Day communications, and I was short of rations. This morating by a determined effort we regained our spring of water from some starpshooters. This afternoon I gave our lines to the care of Chotam Perry, commanding the Cavalry, and Captain Miles, commanding the battalion of Infantry. I drew out Captain Miler's battalion of Artillery acting as Infantry. Just as we were ready to recommence offensive work, Captain Jackson and the pack-train appeared in sight beyond the Indians' position. Captain Miler battalion skannish order, met the train and escorted it successfully. They had hardly formed a junction with us, when the artiflery battalion, already beyond the enemy's flank, made a rapid movement, taking Gatling suns and a nowiter along with them. The Indiana made a desperate effort to flank Capt. Miller, but failed, and then gave way. Everything was then pushed in pressit. We shelled them rapidly from the high bland.

mide a desperate effort to flank Capt. Miller, but failed, and then gave way. Everything was then pushed in pursuit. We shelled them rapidly from the high bloofs as they escaped from the left bank of the river, and followed them escaping in every direction as far as the river, and are now across and going into came (7:30 p. m). The loss of the Indians appears to be 13 killed and quite a large namber of wounded. We have Capt. Beneroft, Lieut. Williams and 11 enlisted men killed and 29 wounded. The Indians abandoned their camps in great haste, leaving match plunder. They fought as well as any trops I ever saw, and so did our men, not one failing to do his duty. I now believe I am in fine condition, just as soon as Green appears from Roise City, to make thorough work with these lindians. They are making for the Sanka country, and I for a concentration at Mount Idahe. Troops have never done lander or more rapid campaigning or better figuring than these.

An eye-witness of the fight on the South Fork of the

An eye witness of the fight on the South Fork of the

Clear Water gives the following details:

Lieut, Fletcher and A. D. Chapman, guide, found Chief
Joseph, after a long and ardinous search, with his full
force, camped in an almost inaccessible defile between
two high mountains near the river. Our command number-ed 400, and Joseph had 300 brave and determined
warriers. The fighting was carried on very carefully on
both sides. The Indians fought in a rectablent position,
and kept up a steady fire from behind rocks, trees, and
every advantageous rise in the ground, like skirmishers
and sharpsacoters. Our men were forced to approach
librough an open table-hand and receive a gallling fire.
There was desultory firing from the rids-pits all
day. A squaw who fell into our hands says that
seven Indians were killed outrigat and the number
wounded is very large. She says that the Chief wanted
to fight and the at the River, but the women prevailed
upon him to retreat. hear Water gives the following details:

REPORT FROM MAJ. GEN. MC DOWELL-THE VICTORY THOUGHT IMPORTANT IN ITS EFFECTS ON THE RESERVATION INDIANS.

Washington, July 15.-The following dispatch was received last night by Gen. Vincent, Acting Adjutant-General: SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., July 14.

Adjt.-Gen. of the Army, Washington, D. C.: I hasten to send on, for the information of the Secreta

ry and the President, the following important telegram from an Aide-de-Camp, whom I had sent to Gen. Howard:

FIGLO SEAR MOUTH OF COTTONWOOD CREEK,

July 12, 7 p. m.,

Gen. McDowell, san Francisco;

Have been with Gen. Howard in the battle of to-day
which he reports in detail. I consider this a most important stoces, Joseph is in full light westward. Nothing can surpass the vigor of Gen. Howard's movement and action. [Signed] Kellen, A. D. C.

My aid is an officer of experience in actual service, and his judgment is entitled to consideration. I ma, therefore infl. itsely effected and rejoiced to hear his report of reservation indicats and need supposed to be wavering, a not discussed to jour the hostiles, because of Joseph's first success. I taink his defeat will tend to cause them to remain peaceable, and may make it unnecessary to act under the President's authority to call out votunteers for temporary a ryice. I will at least defer action this I get Howard's report.

The official report of Gen. Howard of his recent fight the official report of her needed by the Action Administration of the second field in the Action Administration of the second field in the Action Administration of the Action Adm

with the Indians has been received by the Acting Adju-tant General. It is the same as that received in the press diseasch from San Francisco, except that Gen. Howard states:
Capt. Boncroft and Lieut. Williams were wounded (not killed). It men kelled, and 24 wounded, instead of 29, as stated in the San Francisco despatch.

THIRTY-ONE CHINAMEN MET ON THE CLEAR WATER BY JOSEPH'S BAND AND PUT TO DEATH. SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., July 15 .- News to the

following effect has been received here to-day from Walla-Walla, under date of July 13: On the 10th last, Joseph and his band surprised a

party of thirty-see Chinamen, who were coming down the Clear Water in camees, and, for mere pastine and recreation, insummly killed the whole party except one, who managed to clude them and escape. These are the first Chinamen who have been molested by Indians of fate, and many of them are frightened out of their senses and are leaving for the upper country.

In a letterdated July 11, Lehand, of Lewiston, says the enemy's operations have been about seventy-five or one hundred index in the rear of Gen. Howard's movements, that the maneuvres of the latter are entirely too slow, and that Joseph is smart enough to take advantage of them and flank kind all the time. The reneral impression here is that the hundred Flathead Indians, that Gen. Howard and reports of, as going to join Joseph's band, were Ramai reservation indians. It is reported in Montana that the Flath als are going East on their annual buffalo hunt toward the Yellowstone, instead of coming this way."

THE DELAY IN MOVING TROOPS.

Washington, July 15 .- Gen. McDowell telegraphs to the War Department that he cannot understand why there has been so much delay in the movement of the Second Regiment of Infantry, which was ordered from Atlanta and St. Louis to the Pacific Coast. This delay has arisen from the fact that the Government officers having charge of the matter were obliged to make special contracts with some of the Southern relironds for the transportation of traops and their baggane, and were much delayed and troubled on account of the straits to which the Democratic Party had reduced the Government, in not appropriating sufficient unds for the use of the Department. Had plenty of money for the movement of traops been on hand, the Second Regiment might have been on the Pacific Coast by this time, instead of just starting from St. Louis. egraphs to the War Department that he cannot under-

SITTING BULL IN CANADA.

THE HOSTILE SIGUX TIRED OF WAR-RESTRICTIONS UNDER WHICH THEY WILL LIVE IN THE BRITISH POSSESSIONS-FOUR OR FIVE HUNDRED LODGES NORTH OF THE BORDER. Washington, July 15.-The Indian Office

has received through a military channel a report from Lieut, R. H. Day of the Sixth Infantry, communicating information recently given him by Capt. Freechet of the Canadian Mounted Police, concerning Sitting Boll and the various bands of hostile Indians which have crossed the boundary line into British territory, Captain Freechet stated that Major Walsh visited Satting Boll early in May near the head of Freenhumin's Creek. Sitting Bull said to Major Walsh that he desired to remain with the Canadians during the Summer; that he wentled on othing against the law if the Major weald instruct him as to the law; that he came there because he was treed of fighting, and that if he could not make a living in Canada he would return to the United States. Spotted Eagle, Kain-mite-Face, Medicine Bear, and a number of other chiefs of the hostile Sioux were present at this Council, together with about two humired lodges of their followers. They were told by Major Walsh, and also by Capt. Freechet, that they would be allowed ammunition only for hunting purposes, and that should any of their people cross to the American side and commit any depredation, the chiefs would be held responsible and be punished, but so long as they behaved themselves they could remain there with the Canada Indians. Capt. Freechet informed Lieut. Day, however, that the Canada Indians are all opposed to having these hostile Sioux on their side of the boundary line, as they are at war with them. He also stated that in the event of the United States Government demanding the hostiles, the mounted police tonly 300 men) would be an insufficient force to drive them out of the country. He said the hostile Indians away a good supply of arms and horses, and possess but little or no ammunition. No Indian can obtain ammunition from the traders in British territory without an order from the Milhary Commander, which is not given except for a strictly limited quantity safficient to supply lumediate needs by hunting in case the Indian is suffering for food. In reply to a question as to whether the lostile Indians were permitted to trade or give away the United States horses, aformation recently given him by Capt. Freechet of the Canadian Mounted Police, concerning Sitting Boll and